

**EXPEDITED HANDLING PROCEDURE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of WOODS

) Art Unit: 2673

Serial Number 09/534,474

) Examiner: Lao

Filed March 24, 2000

) Atty Docket: WOO001

For: USER FRIENDLY KEYBOARD

VIA FACSIMILE (12 PAGES)
(703) 872-9314

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

BOX AF

**Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated August 9, 2001. It is proposed to cancel claims 4, 11 and 14, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 13 and 16-18 as provided on the substitute claims sheets attached hereto.

REMARKS

Initially the Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extending during the interview of September 18, 2001. During the interview, claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 13 were specifically discussed with reference to U.S. Patent Nos. 4,211,497, 5,325,050, 5,336,002, 5,818,357 and 5,880,685. Additionally, it should be noted that, during the interview, the Examiner raised concern whether positioning of the letter keys in a keyboard was dictated only by function and therefore questioned why the keys could not be arranged in any arbitrary manner. Further the Examiner

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J.L.